

Minutes
Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership
December 7, 2022
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

One James Center, 9th Floor – Board Room
Richmond, Virginia

Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. by Chair Marianne Radcliff, who noted that a quorum was present.

Acting Chair of the VEDP Board of Directors, Secretary Caren Merrick, appointed herself as a member of the Legislation and Policy Committee.

Members present: Chair Marianne Radcliff, Carrie Chenery, Dan Clemente, and Secretary Caren Merrick

Members absent: Nancy Agee

Other Board Members: Mimi Coles, Rick Harrell, Bill Hayter, John Hewa, Pace Lochte, and Will Sessoms

VEDP staff present: Lindsay Akers, Lesley Brown, Nicole David, David Devan, Jason El Koubi, Stephanie Florie, Stephen Hartka, Chris Hughes, Angie Jenkins, Christy Morton, Lisa Wallmeyer, and Abigail Wescott

Guests present: Jason Powell

Public Comment Period

Chair Radcliff solicited public comments. There were none.

Approval of Minutes for June 22, 2022 Meeting

Chair Radcliff asked for approval of the minutes from the June 22, 2022 meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Chenery and seconded by Secretary Merrick, and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Election Update

Ms. Jenkins delivered a presentation on the outcomes of recent elections.

Ms. Jenkins explained that the recent election for Virginia's 11 U.S. House of Representatives seats was the first election since the newly drawn districts were in place based on the 2020 census. Ms. Jenkins said Virginia's 2nd Congressional district was very competitive and considered the biggest battleground in Virginia. The result was Jennifer Kiggans flipping the seat.

Ms. Jenkins spoke about the upcoming special election that will be held on January 10, 2023, to fill Senator Kiggans' vacant seat in the Virginia Senate. Ms. Jenkins also spoke about the upcoming special election, also scheduled for January 10, in House District 35 to fill the seat vacated by Delegate Mark Keam who has accepted a position with the Biden administration. Finally, Ms. Jenkins noted the very recent passing of Congressman Donald McEachin and that a special election also would be scheduled to fill his seat.

Chair Radcliff thanked Ms. Jenkins for her report. Chair Radcliff spoke about her enthusiasm for Ms. Jenkins joining the VEDP team. She spoke about Ms. Jenkins' years of service at the Department of Environmental Quality and her outstanding reputation on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. El Koubi echoed Chair Radcliff's remarks, adding that VEDP is thrilled to have Ms. Jenkins on board. He said she has a lot of fans, including General Assembly members and staff.

Closed Meeting:

Budget and Legislative Initiatives

A motion was made by Ms. Chenery and seconded by Chair Radcliff to move into a closed meeting. The motion shown below was unanimously approved by the members.

I MOVE THAT THE LEGISLATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY CONVENE A CLOSED MEETING PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE §2.2-3711(A)(50) TO ENGAGE IN A DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION OF THOSE PORTIONS OF VEDP's STRATEGIC PLAN, MARKETING PLAN OR OPERATIONAL PLAN, THAT MAY RELATE TO TARGET COMPANIES, SPECIFIC ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AND STAFF FOR MARKETING ACTIVITIES, AND SPECIFIC MARKETING ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD REVEAL TO THE COMMONWEALTH'S COMPETITORS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THE STRATEGIES INTENDED TO BE DEPLOYED BY THE COMMONWEALTH, THEREBY ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE FINANCIAL INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Back in Open Meeting, Certification of Closed Meeting – Followed by a Roll Call vote:

WHEREAS, THE LEGISLATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY HAS CONVENED A CLOSED MEETING ON THIS DATE PURSUANT TO AN AFFIRMATIVE RECORDED VOTE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT; AND

WHEREAS, THE ACT REQUIRES A CERTIFICATION BY THIS COMMITTEE THAT SUCH CLOSED MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE ACT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE CERTIFIES THAT, TO THE BEST OF EACH MEMBER'S KNOWLEDGE, (I) ONLY PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS LAWFULLY EXEMPTED FROM OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ACT WERE DISCUSSED IN THE CLOSED MEETING TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION APPLIES, AND (II) ONLY SUCH PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS AS WERE IDENTIFIED IN THE MOTION BY WHICH THE CLOSED MEETING WAS CONVENED WERE HEARD, DISCUSSED, OR CONSIDERED IN THE CLOSED MEETING BY THE COMMITTEE.

Upon the vote:	Ms. Radcliff	Aye
	Ms. Chenery	Aye
	Mr. Clemente	Aye
	Secretary Merrick	Aye

Ms. Morton reviewed VEDP Board of Directors outreach materials that were distributed to all Board members. Ms. Morton spoke about the importance of building coalitions for the priorities and initiatives VEDP puts forward and supports.

Ms. Morton shared that VEDP develops one-pagers to provide helpful details and talking points on these priorities and initiatives to its partners.

Ms. Morton reinforced the importance of VEDP and its Board of Directors developing relationships with legislators and educating them about the economic development ecosystem and the great work taking place across the Commonwealth.

The Committee members engaged in a discussion on various tactics they use and/or would like to deploy in strengthening their relationships with General Assembly members. VEDP's External Affairs team offered their support in providing Committee and Board meeting recaps, talking points, and other tools to make this a seamless process for VEDP Board members.

Mr. El Koubi spoke about Ms. Morton's great work leading the External Affairs team and how this would be her last Committee meeting, as she is departing VEDP to pursue a new professional opportunity.

Ms. Morton expressed her thanks to the Committee and Board for their support of VEDP's work. She said one of the highlights of her time at VEDP has been working with VEDP's Board of Directors.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole David
Acting Recording Secretary

DRAFT